As filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on November 16, 2004

Registration No. 333-

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM S-8

REGISTRATION STATEMENT UNDER THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933

Charles River Associates Incorporated

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Massachusetts

(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)

200 Clarendon Street, Boston, Massachusetts

(Address of principal executive offices)

04-2372210 (I.R.S. employer identification no.)

02116 (Zip code)

Charles River Associates Incorporated 2004 Nonqualified Inducement Stock Option Plan (Full title of the plan)

> James C. Burrows Charles River Associates Incorporated 200 Clarendon Street, T-33 Boston, Massachusetts 02116 (Name and address of agent for service)

(617) 425-3000 (Telephone number, including area code, of agent for service)

WITH COPIES TO:

Peter M. Rosenblum, Esq. Foley Hoag LLP 155 Seaport Boulevard Boston, Massachusetts 02210 (617) 832-1000 Jonathan D. Yellin, Esq. Charles River Associates Incorporated 200 Clarendon Street, T-33 Boston, Massachusetts 02116 (617) 425-3000

CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE

Title of securities to be registered	Amount to be registered	Proposed maximum offering price per share		Proposed maximum aggregate offering price		Amount of registration fee	
common stock, no par value	315,920 shares(1)	\$	32.09(2)	\$	10,137,873	\$	1,285
common stock, no par value	184,080 shares(3)	\$	40.87(4)	\$	7,523,350	\$	954
Total						\$	2,239

(1) Represents shares of common stock issuable upon exercise of stock options outstanding under the Charles River Associates Incorporated 2004 Nonqualified Inducement Stock Option Plan.

(2) Calculated pursuant to Rule 457(h)(1) under the Securities Act of 1933 based on the weighted average exercise price per share of the options outstanding under the stock option plan.

(3) Represents shares of common stock issuable upon exercise of the maximum number of stock options that may become available for grant pursuant to the terms of the stock option plan.

4) Calculated pursuant to Rules 457(c) and (h)(1) under the Securities Act of 1933 based on the average of the high and low sale prices of the common stock as reported on the Nasdaq National Market on November 10, 2004.

PART II

INFORMATION REQUIRED IN THE REGISTRATION STATEMENT

Item 3. Incorporation of Documents by Reference

The following documents, which we filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, are incorporated by reference in this registration statement:

- (a) Our annual report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended November 29, 2003 filed on February 25, 2004;
- (b) Our quarterly report on Form 10-Q for the fiscal quarter ended February 20, 2004 filed on April 1, 2004;
- (c) Our quarterly report on Form 10-Q for the fiscal quarter ended May 14, 2004 filed on June 28, 2004, as amended on June 30, 2004 and July 14,

2004;

- (d) Our quarterly report on Form 10-Q for the fiscal quarter ended September 3, 2004 filed on October 15, 2004;
- (e) Our current report on Form 8-K filed on March 23, 2004;
- (f) Our current report on Form 8-K filed on May 6, 2004, as amended on June 15, 2004 and July 14, 2004;
- (g) Our current report on Form 8-K filed on June 15, 2004;
- (h) Our current report on Form 8-K filed on June 16, 2004;
- (i) Our current report on Form 8-K filed on July 1, 2004;
- (j) Our current report on Form 8-K filed on August 31, 2004;

(k) Those portions of our definitive proxy statement for our annual meeting of stockholders held on April 16, 2004 filed on March 18, 2004 that are deemed filed with the SEC; and

(l) The description of our common stock contained in our registration statement on Form 8-A filed on April 17, 1998 (File No. 000-24049).

In addition, all documents subsequently filed by us pursuant to Section 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, prior to the filing of a post-effective amendment which indicates that all securities offered have been sold or which deregisters all securities then remaining unsold, are deemed to be incorporated by reference into, and to be a part of, this registration statement.

2

Item 4. Description of Securities

Not Applicable.

Item 5. Interest of Named Experts and Counsel

The validity of the securities we are registering is being passed upon by Foley Hoag LLP, Boston, Massachusetts.

Item 6. Indemnification of Directors and Officers

Article VI.C. of our amended and restated articles of organization provides that a director shall not have personal liability to us or our stockholders for monetary damages arising out of the director's breach of fiduciary duty as our director, to the maximum extent permitted by Massachusetts law. Article VI.D. of our amended and restated articles of organization provides that we shall, to the fullest extent authorized by Massachusetts law, indemnify each person who is, or shall have been, one of our directors or officers or who is or was one of our directors or employees and is serving, or shall have served, at our request, as a director or officer of another organization or in any capacity with respect to any of our employee benefit plans, against all liabilities and expenses (including judgments, fines, penalties, amounts paid or to be paid in settlement, and reasonable attorneys' fees) imposed upon or incurred by any such person in connection with, or arising out of, the defense or disposition of any action, suit or other proceeding, whether civil or criminal, in which they may be involved by reason of being or having been such a director or officer or as a result of service with respect to any such employee benefit plan.

Section 8.51 of Chapter 156D of the Massachusetts General laws provides that a corporation may indemnify a director against liability if:

(1) (i) he conducted himself in good faith; and

(ii) he reasonably believed that his conduct was in the best interests of the corporation or that his conduct was at least not opposed to the best interests of the corporation; and

(iii) in the case of any criminal proceeding, he had no reasonable cause to believe his conduct was unlawful; or

(2) he engaged in conduct for which he shall not be liable under a provision of the corporation's articles of organization authorized by Section 2.02(b)(4) of Chapter 156D of the Massachusetts General Laws.

Section 2.02(b)(4) of Chapter 156D of the Massachusetts General Laws provides that the articles of organization of a corporation may state a provision eliminating or limiting the personal liability of a director to a corporation or its stockholders for monetary damages for breach of fiduciary duty as a director, provided, however, that such provision shall not eliminate or limit the liability of a director (a) for any breach of the director's duty of loyalty to the

corporation or its stockholders, (b) for acts or omissions not in good faith or which involve intentional misconduct or a knowing violation of law, (c) for improper distributions to shareholders, or (d) for any transaction from which the director derived an improper personal benefit.

Section 8.52 of Chapter 156D of the Massachusetts General Laws requires a corporation to indemnify a director who was wholly successful, on the merits or otherwise, in the defense of any proceeding to which he was a party because he was a director against reasonable expenses incurred by him. Section 8.56 of Chapter 156D of the Massachusetts General Laws allows corporations to indemnify officers to the same or greater extent as directors.

The effect of these provisions would be to permit indemnification by us for, among other liabilities, liabilities arising out of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act").

Section 8.57 of Chapter 156D of the Massachusetts General Laws also affords a Massachusetts corporation the power to obtain insurance on behalf of its directors and officers against liabilities incurred by them in those capacities. We have procured a directors and officers liability and company reimbursement liability insurance policy that (a) insures our directors and officers against losses (above a deductible amount) arising from certain claims made against them by reason of certain acts or omissions of such directors or officers in their capacity as directors or officers and (b) insures us against losses (above a deductible amount) arising from any such claims, but only if we are required or permitted to indemnify such directors or officers for such losses under statutory or common law or under provisions of our amended and restated articles of organization or amended and restated by-laws.

4

Item 7. Exemption from Registration Claimed

Not Applicable.

Item 8.	Exhibits.
Exhibit Number	Description
4.1	Amended and Restated Articles of Organization (filed as Exhibit 3.2 to our registration statement on Form S-1, Registration No. 333-46941, and incorporated herein by reference).
4.2	Amended and Restated By-Laws (filed as Exhibit 3.4 to our registration statement on Form S-1, Registration No. 333-46941, and incorporated herein by reference).
4.3	Specimen certificate for our common stock (filed as Exhibit 4.1 to our registration statement on Form S-1, Registration No. 333-46941, and incorporated herein by reference).
5.1	Opinion of Foley Hoag LLP.
23.1	Consent of Ernst & Young LLP.
23.2	Consent of Ernst & Young LLP.
23.3	Consent of Foley Hoag LLP (included in Exhibit 5.1).
24.1	Power of attorney (contained on the signature page of this registration statement).
Item 9.	Undertakings
(a)	The undersigned registrant hereby undertakes:
	(1) To file during any period in which offers or cales are being made a post offective amendment to this registration statement:

- (1) To file, during any period in which offers or sales are being made, a post-effective amendment to this registration statement:
 - (i) To include any prospectus required by Section 10(a)(3) of the Securities Act;

(ii) To reflect in the prospectus any facts or events arising after the effective date of the registration statement (or the most recent post-effective amendment thereof) which, individually or in the aggregate, represent a fundamental change in the information set forth in the registration statement. Notwithstanding the foregoing, any increase or decrease in volume of securities offered (if the total dollar value of securities offered would not exceed that which was registered) and any deviation from the low or high end of the estimated maximum offering range may be reflected in the form of prospectus filed with the Commission pursuant to Rule 424(b) if, in the aggregate, the changes in volume and price represent no more than a 20% change in the maximum aggregate offering price set forth in the "Calculation of Registration Fee" table in the effective registration statement; and

provided, however, that paragraphs (a)(1)(i) and (a)(1)(ii) do not apply if the information required to be included in a post-effective amendment by those paragraphs is contained in periodic reports filed with or furnished to the Commission by the registrant pursuant to Section 13 or Section 15(d) of the Exchange Act that are incorporated by reference in this registration statement.

(2) That, for the purpose of determining any liability under the Securities Act, each such post-effective amendment shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial *bona fide* offering thereof; and

(3) To remove from registration by means of post-effective amendment any of the securities being registered which remain unsold at the termination of the offering.

(b) The undersigned registrant hereby undertakes that, for purposes of determining any liability under the Securities Act of 1933, each filing of the registrant's annual report pursuant to Section 13(a) or Section 15(d) of the Exchange Act that is incorporated by reference in the registration statement shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of such securities at the time shall be deemed to be the initial *bona fide* offering thereof.

(c) Insofar as indemnification for liabilities arising under the Securities Act may be permitted to directors, officers and controlling persons of the registrant pursuant to the foregoing provisions, or otherwise, the registrant has been advised that in the opinion of the Securities and Exchange Commission such indemnification is against public policy as expressed in the Act and is, therefore, unenforceable. In the event that a claim for indemnification against such liabilities (other than the payment by the registrant of expenses incurred or paid by a director, officer or controlling person of the registrant in the successful defense of any action, suit or proceeding) is asserted by such director, officer or controlling precedent, submit to a court of appropriate jurisdiction the question whether such indemnification by it is against public policy as expressed in the Act and will be governed by the final adjudication of such issue.

6

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, the registrant certifies that it has reasonable grounds to believe that it meets all of the requirements for filing on Form S-8 and has duly caused this registration statement to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized, in Boston, Massachusetts, as of November 16, 2004

CHARLES RIVER ASSOCIATES INCORPORATED

By: /s/ James C. Burrows

James C. Burrows President and Chief Executive Officer

POWER OF ATTORNEY

KNOW ALL BY THESE PRESENTS that each individual whose signature appears below hereby constitutes and appoints James C. Burrows and J. Phillip Cooper, and each of them, his or her true and lawful attorneys-in-fact and agents with full power of substitution, for him or her and in his or her name, place and stead, in any and all capacities, to sign any and all amendments (including post-effective amendments) to this registration statement, and to file the same, with all exhibits thereto, and all documents in connection therewith, with the Securities and Exchange Commission, granting unto said attorneys-in-fact and agents, and each of them, full power and authority to do and perform each and every act and thing which they, or any of them, may deem necessary or advisable to be done in connection with this registration statement, as fully to all intents and purposes as he or she might or could do in person, hereby ratifying and confirming all that said attorneys-in-fact and agents or any of them, or any substitute or substitutes for him or her, or any or all of them, may lawfully do or cause to be done by virtue hereof.

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act, this registration statement has been signed by the following persons in the indicated capacities as of November 16, 2004.

Signature	Title			
/s/ Rowland T. Moriarty Rowland T. Moriarty	Chairman of the Board			
/s/ James C. Burrows James C. Burrows	President, Chief Executive Officer and Director (Principal Executive Officer)			
/s/ J. Phillip Cooper J. Phillip Cooper	Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer (Principal Financial and Accounting Officer)			
	7			
/s/ Basil L. Anderson Basil L. Anderson	Director			
/s/ William F. Concannon William F. Concannon	Director			

/s/ Franklin M. Fisher	Director
Franklin M. Fisher	
/s/ Ronald T. Maheu	Director
Ronald T. Maheu	
/s/ Nancy L. Rose	Director
Nancy L. Rose	
/s/ Steven C. Salop	Director
Steven C. Salop	
/s/ Carl Shapiro	Director
Carl Shapiro	
	8

EXHIBIT INDEX

Exhibit Number	Description			
4.1	Amended and Restated Articles of Organization (filed as Exhibit 3.2 to our registration statement on Form S-1, Registration No. 333-46941, and incorporated herein by reference).			
4.2	Amended and Restated By-Laws (filed as Exhibit 3.4 to our registration statement on Form S-1, Registration No. 333-46941, and incorporated herein by reference).			
4.3	Specimen certificate for our common stock (filed as Exhibit 4.1 to our registration statement on Form S-1, Registration No. 333-46941, and incorporated herein by reference).			
5.1	Opinion of Foley Hoag LLP.			
23.1	Consent of Ernst & Young LLP.			
23.2	Consent of Ernst & Young LLP.			
23.3	Consent of Foley Hoag LLP (included in Exhibit 5.1).			
24.1	Power of attorney (contained on the signature page of this registration statement).			
	9			

November 16, 2004

Charles River Associates Incorporated 200 Clarendon Street Boston, Massachusetts 02116

> Re: Charles River Associates Incorporated 2004 Nonqualified Inducement Stock Option Plan

We are familiar with the Registration Statement on Form S-8 (the "Registration Statement") to be filed by Charles River Associates Incorporated, a Massachusetts corporation (the "Company"), with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Commission") under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act"), relating to the offering by the Company of up to 500,000 shares (the "Shares") of its common stock, no par value, issuable upon exercise of stock options granted or to be granted pursuant to the Charles River Associates Incorporated 2004 Nonqualified Inducement Stock Option Plan (the "Plan").

In arriving at the opinion expressed below, we have examined and relied on the articles of organization of the Company, as amended to date, the bylaws of the Company, as amended to date, the records of meetings and consents of the Board of Directors and stockholders of the Company provided to us by the Company, the Registration Statement and the Plan.

In addition, we have examined and relied on the originals or copies certified or otherwise identified to our satisfaction of all such corporate records of the Company and such other instruments and other certificates of public officials, officers and representatives of the Company and such other persons, and we have made such examination of law, as we have deemed appropriate as a basis for the opinion expressed below. This opinion is limited solely to the laws of The Commonwealth of Massachusetts as applied by courts located in Massachusetts.

We assume that all Shares to be issued upon exercise of options granted or to be granted pursuant to the Plan will be issued in accordance with the terms of the Plan and that the purchase price of the Shares will be valid consideration.

Based upon and subject to the foregoing, it is our opinion that the Shares, when issued and delivered upon the exercise of options duly granted pursuant to the Plan and against the receipt of the purchase price therefor, will be validly issued, fully paid and nonassessable.

This opinion is to be used only in connection with the offer and sale of the Shares while the Registration Statement is in effect.

Please note that we are opining only as to the matters expressly set forth herein, and no opinion should be inferred as to any other matters.

We hereby consent to the filing of this opinion as an exhibit to the Registration Statement in accordance with the requirements of Item 601(b)(5) of Regulation S-K under the Securities Act and to the reference to our firm under the caption, "Interests of Named Experts and Counsel." In giving such consent, we do not admit that we are in the category of persons whose consent is required under Section 7 of the Securities Act or the rules and regulations of the Commission.

FOLEY HOAG LLP

By: /s/ William R. Kolb

a Partner

Exhibit 5.1

2

Consent of Independent Auditors

We consent to the incorporation by reference in the Registration Statement (Form S-8) pertaining to the Charles River Associates Incorporated 2004 Nonqualified Inducement Stock Option Plan, of our report dated January 15, 2004, with respect to the consolidated financial statements of Charles River Associates Incorporated included in its Annual Report (Form 10-K) for the year ended November 29, 2003 filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

/s/ Ernst & Young LLP

Boston, Massachusetts November 9, 2004

Consent of Independent Auditors

We consent to the incorporation by reference in the Registration Statement (Form S-8) pertaining to the Charles River Associates Incorporated 2004 Nonqualified Inducement Stock Option Plan, of our report dated March 15, 2004 (except for Note 16, as to which the date is March 18, 2004) with respect to the consolidated financial statements of InteCap, Inc. and subsidiaries included in its current report on Form 8-K/A filed on June 15, 2004 with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

/s/ Ernst & Young LLP

Chicago, Illinois November 9, 2004